

## PROPERTY INFORMATION

|                         |                                                   |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| PROPERTY NAME           | Mrs. Allen's Store (Site)                         |
| PROPERTY ADDRESS        | 1821 North Columbus Street<br>Arlington, VA 22207 |
| TAX PARCEL              | 08017002                                          |
| USGS QUAD (S)           | WASHINGTON WEST (DC)                              |
| COUNTY/INDEPENDENT CITY | Arlington (County)                                |

## ADDITIONAL PROPERTY INFORMATION

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| ARCHITECTURE SETTING | Suburban |
| OWNERSHIP CATEGORY   | Private  |

## SITE DESCRIPTION

November 2019: The historic pre-1935 concrete-block dwelling that was repaired in the 1960s was demolished circa 2001. Based on the Arlington County Property Appraiser, the existing structure dates to 2002 (ACGIS n.d.). The site, located on a cul-de-sac, features a grass lawn with a slight slope away from the dwelling centered on the parcel; a paved driveway exists north of the house.

## PROPERTY HISTORY

November 2019: Prior to the Civil Rights Movement, African American communities were mostly autonomous and self-reliant for goods and services. Many service-oriented businesses were located within the homes of the proprietors to offset the cost of purchasing land and building a shop (ACHPP 2016: 16). The home of Washington and Rose Allen was reportedly the first home-based general store in Hall's Hill/Highview Park, a historically African American neighborhood located south of Lee Highway (Maas et. al. 2016:60; Jones 2018:170). The store was commonly referred to as "Wash Allen's Store" and "Mrs. Allen's Store" after Washington Allen passed (Carroll 2002:21; Jones 2018:170). Arlington Directories from 1955 to 1964 list Rose H. Allen as resident of 1821 N. Columbus Street as well as the "Allen & Davis Grocery" (Hill 1955, 1957, 1959, 1961, and 1964).

According to the Arlington County Building Card for 1821 N. Columbus Street, the residence, noted as a "concrete block dwelling," was owned and occupied by Washington and Rose Allen in 1935. The 1935 building card indicates a variety of maintenance work was performed throughout the 1960s and 1970s to include: a replacement roof on June 17, 1963 (Permit #2105); repairs to a garage and a barn demolition on March 31, 1964 (Permit #23800); new wooden siding and the replacement of rotting wood on October 1, 1965 (Permit #25385); replacement roof on November 1, 1967 (Permit #8391); replacement aluminum siding on three exterior walls with pre-cast stone on the front on June 9, 1970 (Permit #11095); and re-roofing of the front slope only on November 11, 1977 (Permit #5873).

Rose Allen owned two lots in the High View Park subdivision, the west side of Lot 8 (1825 N. Columbus St.) and Lot 9 of the High View Park subdivision, that had west and east access to N. Columbus and N. Cameron Streets respectively. She began selling off portions of her property in the mid-1960s. She demolished the barn behind her home in 1964. Everett and Irene Easter purchased the west section of Lot 8 from Allen (Deed Book 1653/352) and constructed a residence according

to Building Permit #37036 dated August 11, 1967. The Easter family sold the property to Alfred W. & Jalorce M. Clark the following year (Deed Book 1665/532).

In 1968, Allen subdivided Lot 9 into west and east sections; Lot 9A contained the original dwelling and Lot 9B included the east 100-feet of Lot 9 that faces N. Cameron (ACBP #; DB 1674/367). James E. & Carole J. Taylor purchased Lot 9B from Rose Allen (Deed Book 1677/524) and constructed the home (Building Permit #37255 on 6/7/1968).

Based on the Arlington County Property Appraisers records, the Hall's residence (Lot 9A) was conveyed to family member Elizabeth Samuel Long on May 6, 1987 (Deed Book W118/0028) in Hall's will. The historic home appears to have been razed circa 2001 as only the land was sold in 2001 (ACREA 2001). The extant residence was constructed circa 2002.

#### SURVEYOR ASSESSMENT/RECOMMENDATION

November 2019: As a demolished resource, the former Miss Allen's Store is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

**SURVEYOR RECOMMENDATION: NOT NRHP ELIGIBLE**

#### PRIMARY RESOURCE INFORMATION

|                      |                                                                    |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| RESOURCE CATEGORY    | Domestic                                                           |
| RESOURCE TYPE        | Single Dwelling                                                    |
| DATE OF CONSTRUCTION | Ca. pre-1935 (Demolished: ca. 2001)                                |
| HISTORIC TIME PERIOD | World War I to World War II (1917-1945)                            |
| HISTORIC CONTEXT(S)  | Architecture/Community Planning, Domestic, Ethnic Heritage (Black) |
| ARCHITECTURAL STYLE  | --                                                                 |
| FORM                 | --                                                                 |
| NUMBER OF STORIES    | 2.0                                                                |
| CONDITION            | --                                                                 |
| THREATS TO RESOURCE  | Demolished                                                         |

#### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

November 2019: The historic pre-1935 dwelling was demolished ca. 2001. The non-historic replacement dwelling is a two-story, front-gabled, frame, vernacular structure clad with vinyl siding; a two-bay, shed-roofed porch and entry exist on the east side.

#### EXTERIOR COMPONENTS

| COMPONENT | COMPONENT TYPE | MATERIAL | MATERIAL TREATMENT |
|-----------|----------------|----------|--------------------|
| CHIMNEYS  | --             | --       | --                 |
| ROOF      | --             | --       | --                 |
| WINDOWS   | --             | --       | --                 |

|                                            |    |    |    |
|--------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| STRUCTURAL<br>SYSTEM/EXTERIOR<br>TREATMENT | -- | -- | -- |
| FOUNDATION                                 | -- | -- | -- |
| PORCH                                      | -- | -- | -- |

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Arlington County, Virginia, Building Department (ACBP). Property Card: 1821 N. Columbus Street. May 24, 1935. On file at ACBP.

----- Application for Permit to Build, Payment Order No. 4479. May 16, 1940(a). On file at ACBP.

----- Building Permit No. 10540. June 24, 1940(b). On file at ACBP.

Arlington County, Virginia, Department of Real Estate Assessments (ACREA). 1821 N. Columbus Street, Arlington, VA, 22207 (Parcel No. 08017002). Accessed November 2019 at, <https://propertysearch.arlingtonva.us/Home/Search>.

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Jones, Wilma. *My Halls Hill Family: More Than a Neighborhood*. Arlington: Wilma J, LLC, 2018.

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